

# LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR

**A**s we prepare for the upcoming hurricane season, we continue making progress from the devastation of last year's events. In the last three months I have worked closely with the Louisiana Recovery Authority here at home and in Washington, DC to achieve major accomplishments for Louisiana's recovery.



After months of making our case in Washington, we learned that the first round of funding for Louisiana's recovery is finally coming our way. With the federal government's approval of the \$368.4 million request we submitted in April, we can now move forward with key steps in our recovery plan. This crucial funding has been devoted to supporting Louisiana's Bridge Loan Program; local government emergency infrastructure, such as fire houses, police stations and sewer systems; state building infrastructure, such as roads, schools, universities and ports; and start-up costs for *The Road Home* housing plan. The benefits from these investments will go a long way toward rebuilding Louisiana.

A short time later, our rebuilding efforts accelerated with the Legislature's unanimous approval of *The Road Home* housing plan. Our plan allows homeowners to secure up to \$150,000 to cover uninsured damages, provides powerful incentives to encourage the development of affordable rental housing, and offers mitigation grants.

As a result of our hard work to incorporate thousands of suggestions offered by citizens and legislators, *The Road Home* received overwhelming bipartisan support from the Legislature.

As soon as the Legislature acted, we sent our action plan to Washington for final approval. Now after months of working with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, we've received final approval to begin our work. We are one step closer to helping homeowners rebuild their lives as we await final Congressional approval of the additional \$4.2 billion we need to fully fund *The Road Home*.

These are just a few highlights from the last few months. As you will see in this report, the Louisiana Recovery Authority has demonstrated another quarter of solid results. In the context of the largest rebuilding effort in American history, we've made significant progress. We know our work is far from done. In the coming months and years ahead, we will continue working hard to address Louisiana's recovery needs. I am confident that together we will rebuild a safer, stronger, and smarter Louisiana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Babineaux Blanco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco  
Governor